



(U) The Al-Saqri Foundation for Military Sciences Presents: SolidOX Bomb

(U) Executive Summary

- ⇒ (U) The Al-Saqri Foundation for Military Sciences (hereafter Al-Saqri Foundation), which republishes and disseminates improvised explosive device (IED) and associated components manufacturing instructions from al-Qa'ida (AQ), the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS), and other foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs), published "SolidOX Bomb" on 23 October 2018.
- ⇒ (U//FOUO) The Al-Saqri Foundation published the "SolidOX Bomb" one-page guide in Arabic and English on the instant messaging application Telegram. The guide provides a list of materials and instructions on how to manufacture an explosive from SolidOX Pellets with readily available items.
- ⇒ (U//FOUO) Around July 2018, the Al-Saqri Foundation began publishing several IED-related documents monthly. The SolidOX guide was the 24th of 32 documents published between July 2018 and February 2019. Reportedly, the pro-ISIS group has been connected to terrorist attacks and disrupted plots.

(U) Source Document Analysis

(U//FOUO) The document provides step-by-step instructions on how to create an explosive using SolidOX Pellets and includes a photo depiction of the material. The guidance appears to be republished and rebranded from The Anarchist Cookbook Version 2000, demonstrating the Al-Saqri Foundation's apparent lack of ideological issues rebranding IED manufacturing instructions from external organizations. While the document does not specify any targets, the group has published additional terrorist material that encourages followers to attack soft targets, mass gatherings, religious institutions, government facilities, and financial institutions, among others.

(U//FOUO) It is important to note that SolidOX Pellets are currently difficult to find over-the-counter since its manufacturer ceased production in the 1980s, although it can sometimes still be purchased through online marketplaces. The Al-Saqri Foundation document's reference to SolidOX as being available "at almost any hardware store" is likely due to its source document (the original "recipe" in The Anarchist Cookbook) being several decades old, a possible oversight in the Al-Saqri Foundation guide. The Al-Saqri document further propagates another error from the source document, which misidentifies SolidOX as potassium chlorate, rather than sodium chlorate.



(U) Source: SITE Intelligence Group

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This document was prepared by DHS Office for Bombing Prevention's TRIPwire Team. For source material and additional information please visit tripwire.dhs.gov. For questions regarding this product please contact the TRIPwire Help Desk: tripwirehelp@dhs.gov

(U) Device Construction

(U//FOUO) SolidOX Pellets (see images at right) are solid sticks of sodium chlorate (misidentified as potassium chlorate by the Al-Saqri Foundation) that were used as oxidizing agents in welding (typically for hobbyist welding rather than professional work) but were later replaced by more reliable, less dangerous alternatives.

(U//FOUO) The “SolidOX Bomb” guide details the basic materials required for a SolidOX explosive, which include “sticks” of SolidOX (SolidOX Pellets); a fuel source, such as sugar or sucrose; and a mortar or pestle (authors likely meant “mortar and pestle”). The document states—in error (see “Source Document Summary”)—that SolidOX can be purchased at nearly any hardware store and includes instructions for grinding down both the sugar and the SolidOX before mixing, producing a more dense explosive, which increases the explosive effect.

(U//FOUO) There is at least one known case of SolidOX Pellets being used as a component in a pipe bomb (1983, *Ashmore v. Cleanweld Products, Inc.*, Court of Appeals of Oregon); however, there is limited information on the case, and it is unknown if the pipe bomb was built using the technique detailed in *The Anarchist Cookbook*, and later the Al-Saqri Foundation guide.



(U) Device Components and Construction
Source: The Al-Saqri Foundation's SolidOX Bomb

(U) Assessment

(U//FOUO) Although SolidOX is no longer being produced, it can sometimes be found for purchase on various online forums, and should it be acquired, the Al-Saqri Foundation's “SolidOX Bomb” document provides a simple method for manufacturing an explosive. SolidOX-based explosives can be used in a variety of devices, including IEDs, pipe bombs, mortars, and landmines. The SolidOX-based explosive can be extremely volatile and easily constructed, making it an appealing choice for Al-Saqri supporters who want to produce the explosive and can procure SolidOX Pellets.

(U) The Al-Saqri Foundation



(U) Al-Saqri Foundation Logo

(U) The Al-Saqri Foundation is a pro-ISIS publishing group that provides IED-related content in multiple languages. It rebrands IED manufacturing instructions produced by AQ, ISIS, and other FTOs in an effort to radicalize its followers who reside outside conflict zones and inspire them to action. Other pro-ISIS groups and outlets promote the Al-Saqri Foundation's IED construction manuals.

(U) Between July 2018 and February 2019, the Al-Saqri Foundation released dozens of IED-related documents and other attack instructions. It disseminates its content via the internet and social media platforms, such as Telegram. Its manuals are generally published in Arabic, often followed or accompanied by an English translation.

(U) The DHS/OBP TRIPwire team has obtained multiple IED-related documents published by the Al-Saqri Foundation. The TRIPwire team will continue to monitor the Al-Saqri Foundation's production and will work to identify and translate any new explosives and IED-related TTPs introduced by the organization.

(U) WARNING

(U) Do not disturb suspected IEDs. Call your local explosives disposal unit and law enforcement.



(U) For more information about efforts to prevent bombing incidents using precursor chemicals and IED components, please visit the **Bomb-Making Materials Awareness Program (BMAP)** website at <https://www.dhs.gov/bmap>.